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PSYX 100S.02C: Introduction to Psychology

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MISSOULA COLLEGE
Spring, 2015
PSYX 100S: Introduction to Psychology, Section 02C
COURSE SYLLABUS
PROFESSOR: Alison Pepper, Ph.D.

I. CONTACT INFORMATION

- **Office:** Missoula College, HB02
- **Phone:** 243-7924
- **Office Hours:**
 - Thu: 11:30am – 12:30pm
 - Or by appointment
- **Email:** Alison.Pepper@mso.umt.edu
 - It is essential you use your university email (i.e. umconnect).
 - **In the subject line of every email,** please state your class and purpose; **Ex: Psyx 100, Sec 02, Exam 1 question.**
 - If you do NOT follow the above format, there may be a delay in my response. However, my commitment is to respond to emails within 24 hours (no later than 36) when received Mon – Fri. Please expect delays on weekends or holidays.

II. COURSE DESCRIPTION

Welcome to Psyx 100, an Introduction to Psychology. Psychology 100 is a basic and fundamental course. While it is required for psychology majors, it is also a prerequisite for many other majors because of its broad and comprehensive nature. Psychology 100 will introduce you to the study of behavior and the mind. Why do we do what we do, feel what we feel, say what we say, etc... While many students want the right or wrong answer to these questions, this course actually covers a variety of principles and theories of scientific psychology, as applied to understanding human thoughts, emotions, and behaviors. In the first part of the course, we will set the foundation. We will briefly explore the history of psychology, the goal being to appreciate how we got to where we are today. Then, we will look at *how* psychologists study the mind and behavior today. This will take us into the variety of theories, including the biological and physiological foundations of behavior and thought, consciousness, learning and memory, cognition, growth and development, motivation and emotion, sexuality and gender, stress and health, personality, and psychological disorders and therapeutic approaches.

Please note, this is a 4-credit course, which equates to 4 hours of face-to-face lecture per week. In addition, every 1 credit is equal to 3 hours of homework per week; thus, **you can expect to spend about 12 hours a week on this course outside of the classroom.**

III. COURSE OBJECTIVES

1. Have a basic knowledge of psychology, including:
 - terms, facts, concepts, and theories about psychology
 - methods and techniques used to study psychology
2. Have improved higher-order thinking skills, including:
 - applying knowledge already learned to new problems and situations
 - evaluating information and distinguish between fact and opinion

3. To use psychological research to inform your own views and be able to analyze research
4. To improve your knowledge of learning and memory techniques for use in future course

IV. REQUIRED MATERIALS

1. Text and Supplements:

- **CICCARELLI & WHITE (2015). *Psychology*. Upper Saddle River: Pearson.**
 - This is the 4th Edition of the text.
 - ISBN-13: 978-0-205-97224-1
- This text is available at the **Missoula College (MC) bookstore, not the Mountain campus bookstore.**
- There are a couple of hard copies of the text on reserve at the MC and Mountain campus libraries.

2. Moodle:

- This course is managed through Moodle. To access Moodle, go to <http://umonline.umt.edu/> and click the “Moodle NetID Login” button.
- It is recommended that you use the internet browser, Firefox, to run Moodle.

V. ASSESSMENT OF STUDENT LEARNING GOALS & OBJECTIVES

- Your grade in this class is based on the following:

1. 5 Exams (100 points each)	500
2. 1 Paper	100
3. 100 Participation Points	100
4. Research Credits (8 credits)	Required for a grade
TOTAL POSSIBLE	700

- This class can only be taken in traditional mode; you are not able to switch to credit/no credit. Final grades are based on the +/- system. Traditional rounding rules apply (i.e. .5 and above are rounded up and less than .5 are not rounded). The breakdown is as follows:

93-100%	A	73-76%	C
90-92%	A-	70-72%	C-
87-89%	B+	67-69%	D+
83-86%	B	63-66%	D
80-82%	B-	60-62%	D-
77-79%	C+	< 60%	F

1. EXAMS

- All exams are administered **in class**.
- There are **5 exams** in this course. Each covers 3 chapters each.
- Each Exam has **50 questions**, worth 2 points each, for a total of 100 points.
- You may **not** use your **notes** or **text** during an exam. You must take the exam **independently**. Cheating on an exam is a violation of the Student Conduct Code, and

violators will be sanctioned. (See the “Student Conduct Code” section below for more information and an explanation of sanctions for violations.)

- The days exams are scheduled are in the Course Calendar, which is at the bottom of this syllabus. **NO LATE EXAMS WILL BE ACCEPTED!** (Please see exceptions below, under the “Late and make-up Work Policy.”) I will **not** make **alternative arrangements** to give any exams early due to travel plans, school projects, or other courses’ requirements.

2. **PAPER**

- You have 1 paper worth **100 points**
- Detailed instructions for the paper will be discussed in class and posted in Moodle.
- The Course Calendar states when the instructions for the paper will be available and when the paper is due.
- If a paper is NOT submitted by the specific day and time, it is considered **late**. For every **24-hour period it is late**, you will lose **10%** off the total points possible. For example:
 - 0 - 24 hours late = - 10%
 - 24.5 - 48 hours late = - 20%
 - 48.5 - 72 hours late = - 30%
 - 72.5 – 96 hours late = - 40%

3. **PARTICIPATION POINTS (Pp)**

- Participation points consist of **random attendance checks**, as well as **individual and group work**.
- The dates of the random attendance checks and in-class work are purposely **NOT** listed on your Course Calendar.
- Points will range from 5-10 per class, depending on what is being graded.
- **Students who sleep, leave early/come late, work on other assignments or text, facebook, surf the internet, etc... during class will NOT earn their participation points.**
- Your first assignment for participation points is the “**Syllabus Contract**,” which is worth 5 points. See the last page of this syllabus for your contract.

4. **RESEARCH CREDITS**

Psychology is a science built on systematic research of both human and non-human animals. A critical aspect of this course is becoming familiar with how that information is obtained. There are two ways you can meet this course requirement: **1) participating in an original research project** and/or **2) reading about original research and writing a review**. You may choose to complete one, or a combination, of these options in order to meet the **8-credit research requirement** (e.g., 4 research credits for participation and 4 credits for reading about research for a total of 8 credits). Detailed instructions on how to complete both of these options are in Moodle.

Your research credits must be **completed by Wed, April 29th at the beginning of class.** If a student does not complete these credits on time, their grade will be **dropped one letter grade**

(e.g. A- to B-).

VI. ACCOMMODATIONS FOR STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES:

The University of Montana assures equal access to instruction through collaboration between students with disabilities, instructors, and Disability Services for Students (DSS). If you think you may have a disability adversely affecting your academic performance, and you have not already registered with DSS, please contact DSS.

- **Missoula College students:** Contact Paul Kozlowitz at (406) 243-7931 or via email, [Paul](#).
- **Mountain campus students:** Contact DSS at (406) 243-2243 or via email, [DSS](#).

I will work with you and DSS to provide reasonable modifications. “Reasonable” means the University permits no fundamental alterations of academic standards or retroactive modifications. In addition, the student must provide DSS documentation *before* the assignment is due so reasonable accommodations can be made. For more information, please consult [DSS](#).

VII. LATE and MAKE-UP WORK POLICY:

LATE or MAKE-UP WORK WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED. **HOWEVER**, according to the UM’s [Academic Policies and Procedures](#), under “Class Attendance/Absence Policy,” I **MAY** excuse **brief** and **occasional** absences for the following reasons:

1. an illness or injury
2. a family emergency
3. religious observance
4. participation in a university sponsored activity
5. military service

If you miss an assignment, exam or participation points due to one of these exceptions, **valid documentation MUST be provided** in order to make it up.

- Please consult me on what “valid documentation” entails.
- You have **48 hours after the missed assignment’s due date** to notify me so that we can arrange for you to make-up the work or turn it in late.
- Please be aware, **I strictly enforce this policy and WILL REQUIRE documentation.**

VIII. DROP POLICY

According to UM’s [Academic Policies and Procedures](#), beginning the **46th instructional day** of the semester (i.e. **April 7th, 2015**) through the last regular class day (i.e. **May 8th, 2015**) before Finals Week, students may drop courses **only by petition that requires approval from the instructor, advisor, and dean**. Note that not all petitions are approved and documented **justification is required**. Some examples of documented circumstances that may merit approval are accident or illness, family emergency, or other circumstances beyond the student’s control. Instructors and advisors have the right to indicate that they do not recommend the drop. A WP or WF will appear on the transcript.

IX. INCOMPLETE POLICY

A grade of Incomplete (I) may be given when, in the opinion of the instructor, there is a reasonable probability that students can complete the course without retaking it. The incomplete

is not an option to be exercised at the discretion of a student. In all cases it is given at the discretion of the instructor (see UM's [Academic Policies and Procedures](#)).

X. STUDENT CONDUCT CODE (PLEASE READ CAREFULLY)

The Student Conduct Code, which can be found here, [Student Conduct Code](#), will be strictly enforced in this class. Specifically, cheating in any form will not be tolerated. You are not allowed to collaborate on any assignment (i.e. exam, paper, etc...) with anyone, including, but not exclusively, students who have previously taken this course, graduate students in psychology or related disciplines, friends, etc... Thus, all assignments **must** be completed

INDEPENDENTLY, unless otherwise stated in the instructions (e.g. group projects), when students seek services from the Writing Center or tutoring, or unless accommodations have been approved by your instructor. **Cheating or plagiarism** will result in **FAILURE** (that is, a zero or an "F") on the assignment, **at minimum**, and it will be reported to Department Chair and/or the Dean. The instructor reserves the right to assign an "F" for the course if cheating or plagiarism occur. Additionally, you are subject to University sanctions, suspension or expulsion.

If you do not know what plagiarism is, you can ask your professor, visit the [Writing Center](#) at the Mountain campus (Liberal Arts 144, 243-2266), the [Mansfield Library](#) (243-6866), or contact Missoula College's [Academic Support Center](#) (243-7826).

XI. CLASS ETIQUETTE

- Please turn your **cell phones off** or on **silent** before class begins.
- Please, **DO NOT TEXT** during class. It is very distracting to your classmates as well as myself, *especially* when you trying to be inconspicuous (i.e. texting under the desk, under notes, using your text as a barrier, etc...). If I catch you on your phone during class, I will ask you to put it away. After 2 or 3 prompts, **I will ask you to leave the class immediately!**
- **Please be on time.** If you must leave early, out of courtesy for your classmates and me, please sit close to the door so you can excuse yourself quietly. Also, please let me know before class that you need to leave early.
- If you type your notes on a computer during class, please **DO NOT use Facebook, play games, check email, surf the internet, etc...during class.** While I may not be able to see you, your peers sitting behind you can see, which can be very distracting. Again, if I find you are doing other things on your computer during class time than taking notes, I will ask you to stop. After 2 or 3 prompts, **I will ask you to leave the class immediately!**
- Please **do not talk to your neighbors** during class. Just like texting "inconspicuously" is distracting, so is whispering.
- I ask that you please **raise your hand** if you have a question or comment during lecture.
- If you are disruptive, I will talk to you individually after class. After 2 or 3 prompts, **I will ask you to leave the class immediately!**

*****IMPORTANT NOTE:** This is a standardized course across the UM, Missoula College campus. This means that there are established standards that we hold department-wide. These standards determine how the course is conducted, thus, they are not negotiable. In short, we strictly enforce the policies stated in this syllabus.

XII. COURSE CALENDAR

- Below are the due dates and times for your assignments. Please take note of these important dates.
- I will **not** make **alternative arrangements** to give any exams **early** due to **travel plans, assignments in other courses, work, etc...** No exceptions! It is your responsibility to plan to meet the requirements in this class in order to be successful.
- This is a **tentative** course calendar. You are responsible for any changes, which I will clearly announce.

NOTE TO PROF: Below is the Mon/Wed calendar. If you teach Tu/Thu, delete this one and use the 2nd calendar, below:

WEEK		Objective
1	Mon, 1/26	- Welcome - Syllabus Contract (5 Pp), DUE Wed, 2/4/2015 at the beginning of class Chp 1
	Wed, 1/28	- Chp 1
2	Mon, 2/02	- Introduce Research Credits (8 credits); DUE Wed, 4/29/15 at the beginning of class - Chp 2
	Wed, 2/04	- Chp 2 / Chp 3
3	Mon, 2/09	- Chp 3
	Wed, 2/11	- Chp 4
4	Mon, 2/16	- NO CLASS
	Wed, 2/18	- EXAM 1 (Chp 1, 2 & 3)
5	Mon, 2/23	- Chp 4 / Chp 5
	Wed, 2/25	- Chp 5
6	Mon, 3/02	- Chp 5 / Chp 6
	Wed, 3/04	- Introduce Paper (100 points); DUE Wed, 4/08 at the beginning of class - Chp 6
7	Mon, 3/09	- Chp 7
	Wed, 3/11	- EXAM 2 (Chp 4, 5 & 6)
8	Mon, 3/16	- Chp 8
	Wed, 3/18	- Chp 8
9	Mon, 3/23	- Chp 9
	Wed, 3/25	- Chp 9 / Chp 10
10	Mon, 3/30	- Spring Break

	Wed, 4/01	- Spring Break
11	Mon, 4/06	- EXAM 3 (Chp 7, 8 & 9)
	Wed, 4/08	- Chp 10 / Chp 11
12	Mon, 4/13	- Chp 11 / Chp 12
	Wed, 4/15	- Chp 12
13	Mon, 4/20	- Chp 13
	Wed, 4/22	- EXAM 4 (Chp 10, 11 & 12)
14	Mon, 4/27	- Chp 13/ Chp 14
	Wed, 4/29	- Chp 14
15	Mon, 5/04	- Chp 14 / Chp 15
	Wed, 5/06	- Chp 15
16	FINALS WEEK Mon, 5/11, 10:10am	- EXAM 5 (Chp 13, 14, & 15)

NOTE TO PROF: Below is the TUE/THU calendar. If you teach Mon/Wed, delete the one below and use the 1st calendar, above.

WEEK		Objective
1	Tues, 1/27	- Welcome - Chp 1 - Syllabus Contract (5 Pp), DUE Thur, 2/5/2015 at the beginning of class
	Thur, 1/29	- Chp 1
2	Tues, 2/03	- Chp 1 - Introduce Research Credits (8 credits); DUE Thur, 4/30/15 at the beginning of class
	Thur, 2/05	- Chp 2
3	Tues, 2/10	- Chp 2 / Chp 3
	Thur, 2/12	- Chp 3
4	Tues, 2/17	- Chp 4
	Thur, 2/19	- EXAM 1 (Chp 1, 2 & 3)
5	Tues, 2/24	- Chp 4 / Chp 5
	Thur, 2/26	- Chp 5
6	Tues, 3/03	- Chp 5 / Chp 6

	Thur, 3/05	- Chp 6 - Introduce Paper (100 points); DUE Thur, 4/09 at the beginning of class
7	Tues, 3/10	- Chp 7
	Thur, 3/12	- EXAM 2 (Chp 4, 5 & 6)
8	Tues, 3/17	- Chp 8
	Thur, 3/19	- Chp 8
9	Tues, 3/24	- Chp 9
	Thur, 3/26	- Chp 9 / Chp 10
10	Tues, 3/31	- Spring Break
	Thur, 4/02	- Spring Break
11	Tues, 4/07	- EXAM 3 (Chp 7, 8 & 9)
	Thur, 4/09	- Chp 10 / Chp 11
12	Tues, 4/14	- Chp 11 / Chp 12
	Thur, 4/16	- Chp 12
13	Tues, 4/21	- Chp 13
	Thur, 4/23	- EXAM 4 (Chp 10, 11 & 12)
14	Tue, 4/28	- Chp 13 / Chp 14
	Thur, 4/30	- Chp 14
15	Tues, 5/05	- Chp 14 / Chp 15
	Thur, 5/07	- Chp 15
16	FINALS WEEK Wed, 5/13, 8:10am	- EXAM 5 (Chp 13, 14, & 15)

**PSYX 100S, Sec 02C
SPRING 2015
Alison Pepper, Ph.D.**

SYLLABUS CONTRACT

Expectations are very clear in this Syllabus. It is each student's responsibility to read and understand the syllabus and its policies. If you are not clear on any portion of the course, contact your instructor immediately.

Once you have read your Psyx 100 syllabus, please sign below to indicate that you have read and understand the syllabus. This acts as a sort of "**contract**" between me and you, letting me know that you are ready to begin and understand the requirements of the course so you may be successful. For example, your signature below implies that you have taken note of all important due dates and times; you understand what is required, including **5 Exams, random participation points, 1 paper, and 8 credits of research participation.** You also understand that you are responsible for any changes to the course calendar.

This top portion of the contract is for your records. Please sign below and **return to me**, at the **start of class** on **Wednesday, Feb 4th**. This contract is worth 5 participation points.

**PSYX 100S, Sec 02C
SPRING 2015
Alison Pepper, Ph.D.**

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Printed Name

Signature

Date